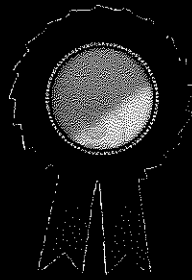


SCHOOL DISTRICT OF TURTLE LAKE

Blue Ribbon Commission – May 21, 2018

Kent M. Kindschy – Superintendent



Overview

- Turtle Lake Students and School
- Funding Formula Affects
- Struggles
- How We Are Making it Work
- Solutions

Turtle Lake Students

- 450 PK-12 Students in One Building
- 14.6% Special Education
- 52% Economically disadvantaged
 - Provide backpacks of food for weekend
 - SOS Program - Food, clothing and presents during Christmas as needed
 - School supplies
 - College tours
- 9% transient students (15-16 report card)
 - Elementary students who have been in 4-5 schools
 - Juniors who move here with 4 high school credits
 - Charter school consortium with three other schools

Turtle Lake Students

- 96% graduation rate
- 96% attendance
- 2018 Top Five Graduates



Bucky's Promise

WISCONSIN
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY



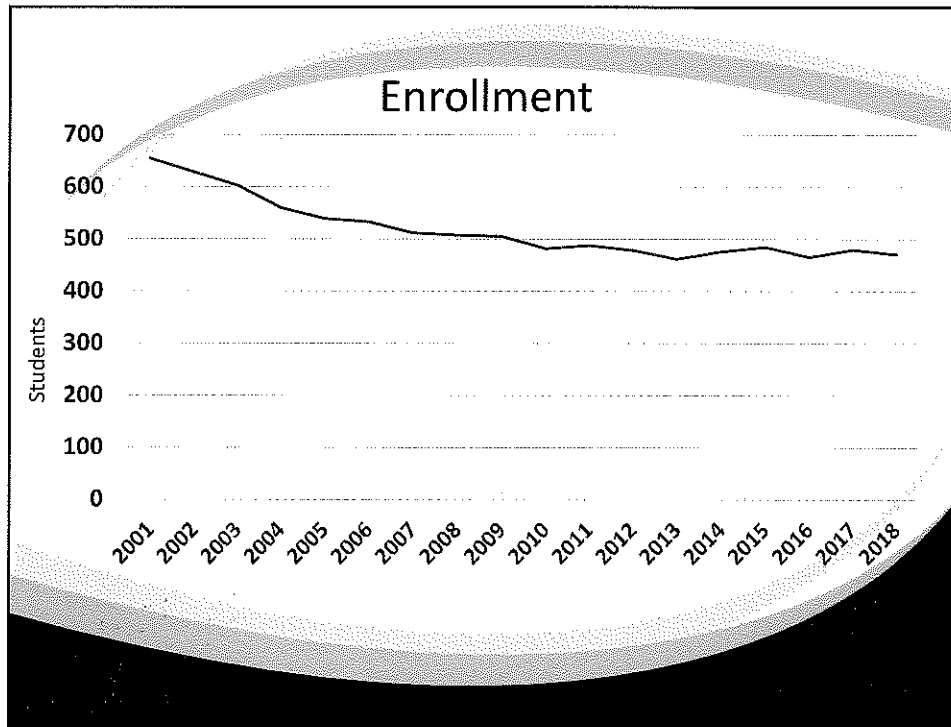
Dartmouth



WISCONSIN
INDIANHEAD
TECHNICAL
COLLEGE



WISCONSIN
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



Open Enrollment

- Competing for students
 - Advertising, surveys, time
 - Some districts hire a PR person
- Negative Open Enrollment by 35 students
 - Geography
 - Daycare in other towns
 - Work in other towns
 - “We hold students accountable”
- Students jump around from district to district
 - After third Friday student count

Funding Formula

- Not predictable
 - State budget ?
 - Property values October 1st
 - State Aid Estimate – July 1st, Final October 15th
- High property value – High poverty
 - 11% of revenue limit from state aid
 - 89% from taxpayers
 - Turtle Lake receives \$1,328 per student for the state's portion of the revenue limit compared to \$4,321 in 2005.
- Categorical aid
 - Transportation aid = \$17,671
 - Sparsity aid = \$145,500
 - High poverty aid = \$32,091

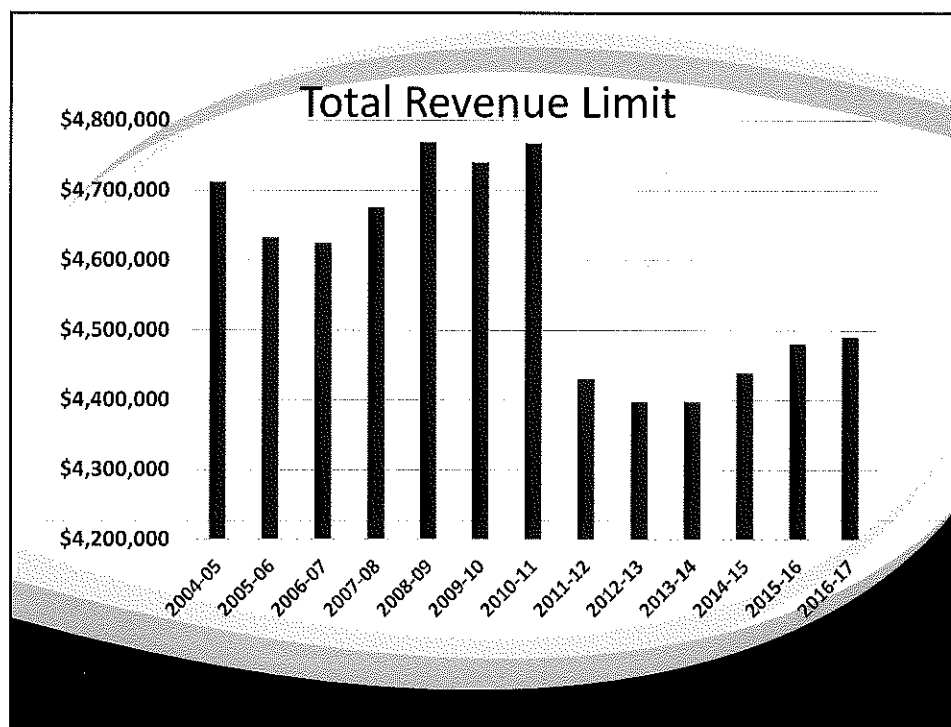
Source: Legislative Fiscal Bureau

Funding Formula

- Increasing costs for supplies/materials/staff
- Defer building expenditures
 - Focus on education
 - Referendum needed
- Negatively aided
 - In 2018 \$435,000 went to other schools - \$509,000 in 2019
 - Spend more – Get less
 - Positively Aided schools spend more to get more
- Vouchers
 - In 2018 \$8500 went to Milwaukee Charter School - \$9500 in 2019
 - Money given to private schools before split to public

Revenue Limits

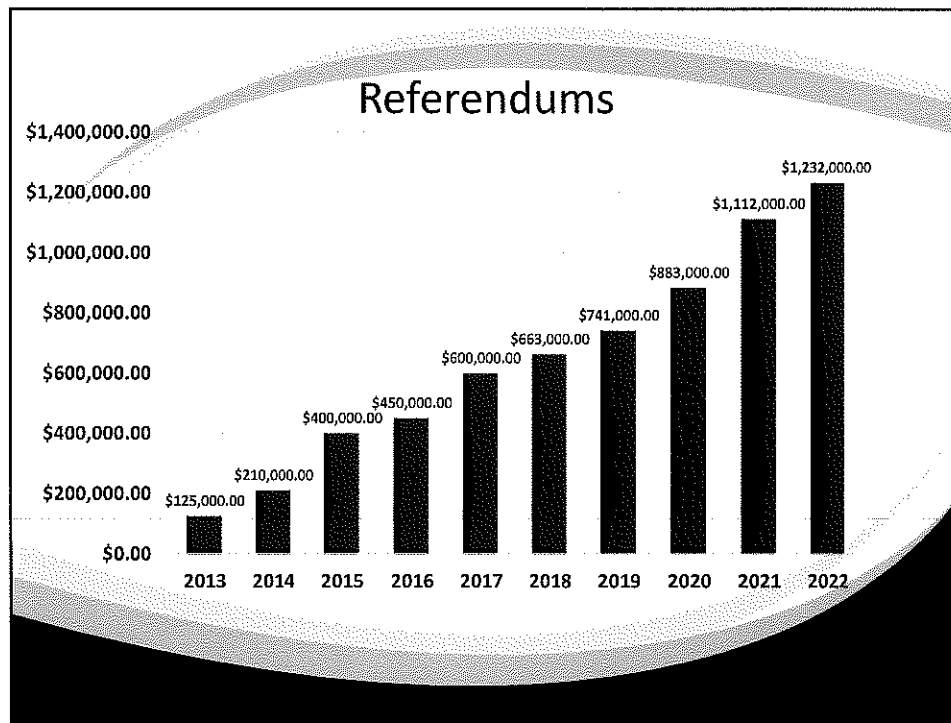
- Low spending in 1990's
- Any money to revenue limit is tax relief and not more money
- Live on per pupil categorical aid
- Don't understand why a student in Turtle Lake is less than a student in other districts.
- \$9,635/ student
- Turtle Lake School Revenue Limit
 - 2008-2009 \$4,745,779
 - 2017-2018 \$4,509,283



Referendums

- Vacation homes and retirees
 - Retirees that own a home on lakes and winter in warmer climates
 - Vote in referendums with no vested interest in school or community
- Low income families
- Added expense - \$10,000 est.
- Dependent on referendums for continuation of programs
- Since 1994 – 10 referendum questions – 5 passed

– April 2012	3 year	\$2,241,000	Failed
– November 2012	5 year	\$1,785,000	Passed
– November 2016	5 year	\$4,975,000	Failed
– November 2016	4 year	\$400,000	Failed Replace Track
– April 2017	5 year	\$4,631,000	Passed



Special Education

- 1 day a week Special Education Director
- 1 day a month School Psychologist
- 69% of special education costs out of general fund
- 9% of budget – Fund 10

Mental Health

- Fastest growing problem in schools today
- Therapist – 2 days a week
- 20% of Barron County has 4+ ACES
 - Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Younger students not able to function in classroom
 - Few options
- Need for social workers in schools
- School Based Mental Health Grant
 - No sustainability

Hiring and Retention

- Teacher Shortage
- Competitive with larger districts
 - Forced to offer higher salaries to compete with larger districts
 - Rely on culture and climate to retain staff
- No teacher = No program
- Licensing Flexibility

How Are We Making it Work?

- Retain our great teachers
 - Four AP courses and 21 online AP options
 - Eight courses WITC credit
- North Star Academy – 4 school consortium- alternative school
- Early Childhood – 4 school consortium
- Share a Spanish teacher with Clayton School
- 1 day/month school psychologist
- 1 day/week special education director
- 1 day/month nurse
- 50% AG teacher
- 1 day/month librarian
- ½ day a week resource officer

How Are We Making it Work?

- REFERENDUMS for operations
- A lot of GRANTS!
 - FAB LAB
 - School Based Mental Health
 - Safety
 - E-rate
 - TEACH
 - PEP Grant
- Co-op spring sports and wrestling
- Lake Online Charter School
- All Day PK to attract students
- Before and After school care

How Are We Making it Work?

- Strong Community Support!
 - Backpack Program
 - SOS
 - School Supplies
 - Clothing
 - Donations to athletic fields
 - Baseball, Softball and Football
 - Donations to FAB LAB

Solutions

- Add new money – Sales Tax?
- CPI Annual increase as minimum - **Predictable**
- Fund special education by weighting - **Fair**
 - Open Enrollment - **Fair**
- Relax stipulations on hiring retirees - **Flexible**
- Equalize the state aide per student across the state - **Fair**
- Eliminate referendums and fund schools properly - **Fair**
- Provide state funding for capital projects - **Predictable**
- Fund Summer school 100% instead of 40% - **Fair**
- Get information to schools sooner for budgets - **Predictable**
- Other States?



Questions or Comments?

